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14 July 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
SUBJECT : Sanitization and Decontrol of Satellite
Photography
REFERENCE : DDCI Memorandum of 7 July 1967, above
subject

1. While it is still my belief that sanitization and decontrol of satellite photography as originally proposed is a desirable course of action, I would suggest that the matter not now become a major point of contention. A less liberal approach is acceptable at this point in time.

2. However, I feel that note should be taken of the gravity of the conflict between pressures for security considerations on the one hand and pressures for liberalization for peaceful uses on the other. Looking to the long-range future it appears that a rather serious clash between Satellite Reconnaissance and NASA's Earth Resources Program is inevitable.

3. For the present, therefore, it would seem that our alternative is to keep channels of communication with NASA as open as possible. If precipitate action can thus be anticipated, we will, at such time, be better able to recommend an appropriate position to the Director.

CARL E. DUCKETT
Deputy Director
for

Science and Technology

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14 July 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Sanitization and Decontrol of Satellite
Photography

1. You asked for my comments concerning the position on sanitization and decontrol taken by Mr. McNamara and by Admiral Lowrance in his memorandum of 7 July.

2. I still believe that the intelligence community could adopt with profit the measures contained in the COMOR proposal on sanitization and decontrol. We can probably afford to temporize for a few months longer, and the liberalization of the Sanitization Manual proposed by Admiral Lowrance is a logical next step regardless of the ultimate position taken by the intelligence community. Sooner or later, however, we should adopt our original proposal.

3. COMIREX is proceeding with revisions to the Sanitization Manual which will accomplish many of the substantive objectives contemplated in the original COMOR proposal. None of these measures, however, are likely to satisfy the State Department and others who wish to confirm the fact of satellite reconnaissance at the SECRET level. I suggest, therefore, that you inform [redacted] of these developments before taking a final position on the matter.

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Chairman

Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation

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